

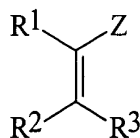
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

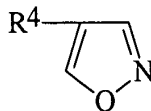
Claim 1. (Amended) A photothermographic material having, on a support, at least an image-forming layer containing a non-photosensitive silver salt, a photosensitive silver halide and a binder and a protective layer outer than the image-forming layer on the support, and the photothermographic material satisfies at least one of the following Conditions I and II:

Condition I

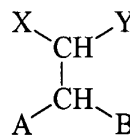
at least one of the layers formed on the image-forming layer side of the support contains at least one compound selected from compounds represented by the following formula (1), (2) or (3), and the  $\text{NH}_4^+$  content in all the layers formed on the image-forming layer side of the support is  $0.06 \text{ mmol/m}^2$  or less:



(1)



(2)



(3)

wherein:

in the formula (1),  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$  and  $\text{R}^3$  each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a substituent, Z represents an electron-withdrawing group, and  $\text{R}^1$  and Z,  $\text{R}^2$  and  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$ , or  $\text{R}^3$  and Z may be combined with each other to form a ring

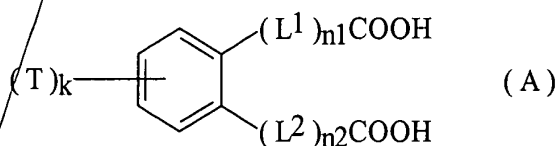
structure,

in the formula (2),  $R^4$  represents a substituent,

in the formula (3), X and Y each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a substituent, A and B each independently represents an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an alkylamino group, an aryloxy group, an arylthio group, an anilino group, a heterocycloxy group, a heterocyclylthio group or a heterocyclylamino group, and X and Y or A and B may be combined with each other to form a ring structure:

Condition II

at least one of the layers formed on the image-forming layer side of the support contains a nucleating agent, and at least one of the layers formed on the image-forming layer side of the support contains at least one compound represented by the following formula (A), and film surface pH of the image-forming layer side of the support is substantially unchanged after coating:



wherein:

in the formula (A), T represents a monovalent substituent, k represents an integer of 0-4; when k is 2 or more, two or more of T may be the same or different from each other or one another and